



HOW TO...

Recover lost data

A serious crash can force you to reinstall Windows, but what if you haven't backed up all your files?

Jennifer Bagley enlists the help of Paragon Rescue Kit to salvage files and burn them to a CD



Your computer crashes. You don't worry at first because it has happened before, but this time something has gone badly wrong and you can't get back into

Windows, no matter what you try. That's OK, as you can simply wipe the hard disk, reinstall Windows and restore all your files from your backups. You did back up all your files, didn't you?

If you're like us, backing up is a job you try to do regularly but sometimes you're just too busy. Or perhaps you've spent all day working on a document or spreadsheet and your PC has crashed before you've had time to make your end-of-day backup. In this situation, Paragon Rescue Kit – included on this month's cover disc – is indispensable. Here we'll show you how to use it to rescue a file from your hard disk.

1 Go to the Paragon Rescue Kit section on the cover CD and click on the Install button. There are two steps to this. First you need to download the supplied ISO file to your hard disk; you will need this shortly, so make sure you put it where you can find it easily. Click on the Open Folder button. Highlight the recover_cd.iso file and select Copy from the Edit menu. Navigate to the relevant place on your hard disk and select

Paste from the File menu. Then scroll down the Step-by-Step window to step 2 and click on Install.

2 Next you need to create your bootable recover CD. For this you burn the ISO image file you downloaded in Step 1 to a CD using your usual CD burning program. You'll find instructions for most popular programs on Paragon's website at www.paragon.ag/support. Click the Knowledge Database link on the left-hand side and enter ISO Image Burning in the Search box on the right. We used Nero Express. Start the program and click on Disc Image or Saved Project. In the Open dialog box, select All Files in the Files of Type box at the bottom, then find the ISO file you saved earlier. Follow the onscreen instructions.

3 Restart your PC with the newly created ISO image CD in its drive. Your PC should boot from the CD, and your screen should look like the one in the picture for this step. If it doesn't, check that your PC is set to boot from the CD drive. To do this, you need to enter the BIOS by restarting your PC and pressing a key before Windows loads, typically Del, F2, F8 or Esc. Use the arrow up and down keys to move around the BIOS, and press the Enter key to select an option, or use the key specified onscreen. Save the changes and

exit. Select Paragon Linux from the Rescue Kit menu, and press Enter. If the mouse doesn't work, use the arrow keys to move around. The cursor should be available after this screen.

4 Remove the Recovery CD from the drive and insert a blank recordable CD. Then double-click on Record files to CD/DVDs.

5 In the next screen select Create Data Disc. If you are an experienced user, tick the box next to Expert Mode; otherwise leave this blank. Click Next. Select your CD writer drive with the blank disc in it. Click Next again.

6 Click on the Add Files button. In the Open dialog box, locate your file by clicking the down-pointing arrow to the right of the Look in box. If it looks as if you can't navigate further up with this menu, click the button with an icon of a folder containing an upward-pointing arrow. Although this dialog box looks like the typical Windows Open dialog box, it presents your hard disk as it is actually structured. To find items on your desktop, you'll need to go to the C: drive, open the Documents and Settings folder, then the relevant User and Desktop folder. When you've finished follow the wizard to burn the files to CD.

